



U.S. Department of Justice

United States Attorney
District of New Hampshire

Federal Building
53 Pleasant Street, 4th Floor
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

603/225-1552

MEDIA RELEASE
For Immediate Release
February 17, 2006

Contact: Thomas P. Colantuono
United States Attorney
Robert M. Kinsella
Assistant U.S. Attorney
(603) 225-1552

ROMANIA CITIZEN FOUND GUILTY IN ATM "SKIMMING" CASE

CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE -- United States Attorney Tom Colantuono, Steven D. Ricciardi, the Special Agent-in-Charge of the Boston Division of the United States Secret Service, Holly Fraumeni, the Resident-Agent-in-Charge of the Manchester, New Hampshire Office of the Secret Service, and Katherine O'Toole, the Commissioner of the Boston, Massachusetts Police Department announced that a jury in the U.S. District Court convicted Emile Ioan Codarcea, a 36-year-old resident of Quebec, Canada, of conspiracy to commit bank fraud, bank fraud and three counts of aggravated identity theft on Thursday, February 16, 2006.

The offenses stemmed from conduct, occurring from March 2003 to April 2005, through which Cordarcea and other individuals used devices they concealed at Bank of America ATM facilities in Massachusetts and New Hampshire to secretly obtain account information and personal identification numbers from customers who used their ATM cards at the facilities. During the two-year period of the offenses, Cordarcea and his co-conspirators used the secretly obtained account information to create counterfeit ATM cards which were used to steal approximately \$375,000 from the bank.

When Cordarcea is sentenced by Chief United States District Court Judge Steven J. McAuliffe on May 24, 2006, he could receive a prison term of up to 30 years for the bank fraud offense, 5 years for the conspiracy conviction and consecutive 2 year prison terms for each of the aggravated identity theft offenses. He could also be fined up to \$1,000,000.

After the jury returned its verdict, United States Attorney Tom Colantuono said, "We're pleased with the jury's verdict because the fraud that was involved in this case had a serious impact on the Bank of America and the customers whose private information was compromised."

Assistant U.S. Attorney Bob Kinsella prosecuted this case.